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09/814,050	03/22/2001	Hisashi Ohki	1614.1149	2534

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, JENNIFER T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2674

DATE MAILED: 06/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/814,050

Applicant(s)

OHKI ET AL.

Examiner

Jennifer T. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-82 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-82 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is responsive to amendment filed on 1/31/05.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, 5-16, 19-23, 25-36, 39-40, 43-45, 47-51, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 65-69, 71, 72, 75-77, and 79-82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832) in view of Suso et al. (Patent No.: US 6,466,202).

Regarding claims 1, 21, and 43, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 1, 21, and 43 in that he does not specifically teach displaying standby transition time. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches displaying standby transition time (col. 5, lines 19-26, lines 53-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying standby transition time as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 2, 22, and 44, Kitazawa teaches all the limitation except displaying a

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displaying a next electronic mail check time. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches a next electronic mail check time (col. 6, lines 31-40). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the next electronic mail check time as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 3, 23, 45, 66, 79, and 81, Kitazawa teaches all the limitation except displaying a greeting message by characters. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches displaying a message by characters (col. 6, lines 41-50). Although Suso does not specifically teach the message is a greeting message; however, it would have been obvious to obtain the greeting message as the matter of user's choice. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate displaying a greeting message by characters as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 5, 6, 16, 25, 26, 36, 47, and 51, Kitazawa teaches all the limitation except displaying a communication connection status of the electronic equipment. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches displaying a communication connection status (i.e., the time length of a telephone call) of the electronic equipment (col. 7, lines 23-30). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying the communication connection status of the electronic equipment as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 7-15, 27-35, 48-50, and 69, Kitazawa teaches all the limitation except displaying a reception of an electronic mail by the electronic equipment. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches characters, displaying indicating a notification (i.e., mail address or telephone number of sender informing that the signal or the mail has been received to indicate to user), reception of an electronic mail by the electronic equipment (col. 6, lines 31-40). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying the communication connection status of the electronic equipment as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 19, 20, 39, 40, 65, 71, 72, and 75-77, referring to Figs. 1-3, Kitazawa teaches a status display control unit for displaying status information of an electronic equipment which includes a main display (10) section and an auxiliary display section (20), comprising: a controller (11) displaying data in the auxiliary display section (20) wherein the electronic equipment further comprising: a main body; and a lid member which is provided on the main body and capable of taking an open position and a closed position, said main display section being provided on the lid member and being visible only in the open position of the lid member, said auxiliary display section being provided on the main body at a position which is visible in the closed position of the lid member [0014], [0034], and [0040]-[0046].

Kitazawa differs from claims 19, 20, 39, 40, 65, 71, 72, and 75-77 in that he does not specifically teach displaying the status information (i.e., displaying the animation or strings of characters about the condition of the device such as the condition of the battery). However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches the status information (col. 5, lines 18-25, lines 54-

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60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying the status information as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 67, 68, 80, and 82, Kitazawa teaches all the limitation except displaying contents set in correspondence with time. However, referring to Figs. 3, 5, 7, and 8, Suso teaches characters, displaying contents set (i.e., schedules and update schedules) in correspondence with time (col. 11, lines 8-30). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying contents set in correspondence with time as taught by Suso in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

4. Claims 4, 24, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832) in view of Martinez et al. (Patent No. US 6,901,557).

Regarding claims 4, 24, and 46, Kitazawa teaches all the limitation except displaying a recording medium playing state. However, referring to Fig. 3B, Martinez teaches displaying portable recording medium playing state (col. 4, lines 7-13). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying the recording medium playing state as taught by Martinez in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

5. Claims 17, 18, 37, 38, 52, 53, 70, and 78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832) in view of Yoon (Patent No. US 6,697,083).

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Regarding claims 17, 37, and 52, Kitazawa teaches all the limitation except displaying a model information of the electronic equipment. However, Yoon teaches displaying a model information on the display (Fig. 5A). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying the model information as taught by Yoon in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

Regarding claims 18, 38, 53, 70, and 78, the combination of Kitazawa and Yoon teaches displaying a position of a volume adjusting knob (5A).

6. Claims 41, 42, 54, 55, 73, and 74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832) in view of Suso et al. (Patent No.: US 6,466,202) and further in view of Klein (Patent No.: 6,014,141).

Regarding claims 41, 42, 54, 55, 73, and 74, the combination of Kitazawa and Suso differs from claim 41, 42, 54, 55, 73, and 74 in that it does not specifically teach an auxiliary display section provided on the main body at a position only visible in the open position of the lid member. However, referring to Fig. 1, Klein teaches an auxiliary display section (50) provided on the main body at a position only visible in the open position of the lid member (col. 2, lines 55-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the auxiliary display section provided on the main body at a position only visible in the open position of the lid member as taught by Klein in the system of the combination of Kitazawa and Suso in order to provide a display system with increasing display area.

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7. Claims 58, 61, and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitazawa et al. (Japan Patent No.: 09-026832) in view of Meins et al. (Patent No.: 6,587,700).

Regarding claims 58, 61, and 64, Kitazawa teaches all the limitation except displaying a displaying information related to input of a password of the electronic equipment. However, referring to Figs. 2-5 and 7, Meins teaches displaying information related to input of a password of the electronic equipment (from col. 10, line 54 to col. 11, line 11). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the displaying information related to input of a password of the electronic equipment as taught by Meins in the system of Kitazawa in order to provide a display control unit with useful improve functions.

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-82 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7696. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri: 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick N. Edouard can be reached on 571-272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jennifer Nguyen
06/19/05


REGINA LIANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER